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2616

DATE MAILED: 06/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/723,591

Applicant(s)

MACAULAY ET AL.

Examiner

Robert C. Scheibel

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– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14, 16-23, 25-31, 33-35, 37-40 and 43-48 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14, 16-23, 25-31, 33-35, 37-40, and 43-48 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

- Examiner acknowledges receipt of the Notice of Appeal received on 3/3/2006. As indicated in the response mailed 4/19/2006, prosecution has been reopened and the finality of the previous Office Action has been withdrawn.
- Claims 1-14, 16-23, 25-31, 33-35, 37-40, and 43-48 are currently pending.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see pages 1-3, filed 3/3/2006, with respect to claims 1 and 3 have been considered but are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.
2. Applicant's arguments, see page 3, filed 3/3/2006, with respect to claim 37 have been considered but are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.
3. Applicant's arguments, see page 4, filed 3/3/2006, with respect to claim 16 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that Alexander and AAPA fail to disclose the step of associating a first logical port between a telephony proxy server and a switch module with both the first and second terminals and then forwarding the call request through the logical port from the switch module to the telephony proxy server. Examiner respectfully disagrees. Alexander clearly discloses associating the first and second terminals in the call manager as stated in the rejection below. AAPA also clearly states that "With the advent of packet-based network telephony (e.g., IP

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telephony), telephone sets (e.g., network telephones or soft phones) are no longer connected directly to a switch. Instead, the telephone sets are coupled over a LAN, WAN, or Internet to a system running a Terminal Proxy Server (TPS). In most cases, the TPS resides in the same system as the switch (e.g., a PBX). The TPS acts as a proxy server on behalf of the various telephony clients (which are the telephone sets). The TPS reserves a logical port in the switch for the telephony client, and routes call control signaling messages and other traffic between the telephony client and the switch through this logical port.” This clearly shows that it is well known in the art to implement a system such as the call manager with a terminal proxy server software and to use logical ports to communicate with a switch module. The call manager performs the exact same functionality as the article in the claim language; there are merely semantic differences in how this functionality is described. The association of the two terminals in the call manager of Alexander has the same functionality as the association of the two terminals in the claim language. The fact that the AAPA clearly indicates that the use of such language and implementation is well known in the art makes the claim obvious in view of the prior art of record.

In the second paragraph of page 4, Applicant disagrees with the motivation statement used in this rejection. The arguments in this paragraph have been fully considered but are moot as the motivation statement has been revised. There is clearly motivation to combine these two references as indicated in the rejection below.

4. Applicant's arguments, see pages 4-5, filed 3/3/2006, with respect to claim 23 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

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Applicant argues in the first paragraph of this section that the prior art does not teach storing a table associating identifiers of the first and second terminals with a first logical port. However, Alexander does indicate the association between the first and second terminals in a table. As indicated above regarding claim 16, AAPA teaches the use of the logical port in implementing the call manager. It would clearly have been obvious to add the logical port information associating the two terminals to the table that already associates the two terminals in Alexander in the combination of Alexander and AAPA. Applicant continues a similar argument in the following paragraph, asserting that O'Neil does not suggest updating a table to indicate which terminal answered the call request. However, this is obvious; the combination used in the rejection would clearly have updated the table of Alexander. If the teaching of O'Neil were applied such that the indication of which terminal answered the call request were merely generically updated in "memory", as Applicant appears to suggest, this indication would not be useful. Only when associated with the same information used in processing the call requests in Alexander (i.e. the table) will this information be useful.

Applicant argues that the references are piece-meal combined. In response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

5. Further, Applicant's arguments do not comply with 37 CFR 1.111(c) because they do not clearly point out the patentable novelty which he or she thinks the claims present in view of the

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state of the art disclosed by the references cited or the objections made. Further, they do not show how the amendments avoid such references or objections.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

8. Claims **1-6, 8-13, 43, and 45-48** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,775,369 to McClung in view of U.S. Patent 6,178,238 to Bozek et al.

Regarding claim 1, McClung discloses a method of controlling communications in a network, comprising: receiving a request to clone a first terminal with a second terminal (defining a roaming line in lines 7-15 of column 9; the roaming line in the clone; see lines 41-47

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of column 6 for more explanation of the roaming line); in response to the request to clone, associating a logical identifier of the first terminal with the second terminal (lines 9-12 of column 9); receiving a call request specifying the logical identifier of the first terminal (the call initiation request in lines 26-30 of column 9); in response to the call request, sending an alert indication to the second terminal (see lines 43-45 of column 9).

McClung does not disclose expressly receiving a second indication and in response to the second indication accessing profile information.

Bozek discloses receiving a second indication (step 201 of figure 2) from the second terminal (in this combination, the remote user to whom calls are forwarded to initiates an outbound call using the method of Bozek) for initiating a call session with a third terminal (terminal associated with speed dial number in figure 2); in response to the second indication accessing profile information (the calling card database corresponding to the home telephone number of the calling card; see lines 49-55 and element 205 of figure 2) associated with the first terminal (the home telephone number of the calling card in this case is the first terminal) to process the second indication for establishing the call session between the second terminal and the third terminal (this profile is used to obtain information on the speed dial entry in order to establish the session with the third terminal).

McClung and Bozek are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor of telephony. At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify Bozek so the remote terminal to whom calls are forwarded uses the calling card procedure of Bozek for outgoing calls. The motivation for doing so would have been to allow the remote user to use speed dialing features as if he were on his home network as

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suggested by McClung in lines 15-22 of column 1. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Bozek with McClung for the benefit of providing speed dialing to remote users to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

Regarding claim 3, McClung discloses a method of controlling communications in a network, comprising: receiving a request to clone a first terminal with a second terminal (defining a roaming line in lines 7-15 of column 9; the roaming line in the clone; see lines 41-47 of column 6 for more explanation of the roaming line); in response to the request to clone, associating a logical identifier of the first terminal with the second terminal (lines 9-12 of column 9); wherein associating the logical identifier comprises storing a table associating the logical identifier with identifiers of the first and second terminals (the mapping table of figure 3).

McClung does not disclose expressly receiving a call request and in response to the call request accessing profile information.

Bozek discloses receiving a call request (step 201 of figure 2) from the second terminal (in this combination, the remote user to whom calls are forwarded to initiates an outbound call using the method of Bozek) to initiate a call session with a third terminal (terminal associated with speed dial number in figure 2); in response to the call request, accessing profile information (the calling card database corresponding to the home telephone number of the calling card; see lines 49-55 and element 205 of figure 2) of the first terminal (the home telephone number of the calling card in this case is the first terminal) to establish the call session between the second terminal and the third terminal (this profile is used to obtain information on the speed dial entry in order to establish the session with the third terminal).

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McClung and Bozek are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor of telephony. At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify Bozek so the remote terminal to whom calls are forwarded uses the calling card procedure of Bozek for outgoing calls. The motivation for doing so would have been to allow the remote user to use speed dialing features as if he were on his home network as suggested by McClung in lines 15-22 of column 1. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Bozek with McClung for the benefit of providing speed dialing to remote users to obtain the invention as specified in claim 3.

Regarding claim 2, McClung discloses the limitation that associating the logical identifier of the first terminal with the second terminal comprises associating a directory number of the first terminal with the second terminal (the mapping table of figure 3 maps the directory number of the first terminal with the second terminal; lines 32-37 of column 6 explain how this can be more than a 4-digit number).

Regarding claim 4, McClung discloses the limitation that storing the table comprises storing a table associating the logical identifier with Internet Protocol addresses of the first and second terminals (see figure 3).

Regarding claim 5, McClung discloses the limitation of receiving at least another request to clone the first terminal with at least another terminal in lines 42-47 of column 6 which indicates that one or more telephony devices can be cloned (or designated as roaming lines).

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Regarding claim 6, McClung discloses the limitation that receiving the request comprises receiving a request at a terminal proxy server in that the call manager 26 is the terminal proxy server.

Regarding claims 8 and 9, McClung discloses the limitation that the request to clone comprises a request to override the first terminal with the second terminal and that the alert is not sent to the overridden terminal in lines 44-45 of column 6 which indicate that the roaming line can be used *instead of* the user's regularly scheduled telephony device.

Regarding claims 10 and 11, McClung discloses the limitation that the request to clone comprises a request to replicate the first terminal with the second terminal and that another alert is sent to the first terminal in lines 44-45 of column 6 which indicate that the roaming line can be used *in addition to* the user's regularly scheduled telephony device. See also lines 43-45 of column 9.

Regarding claim 12, McClung discloses the limitation of receiving an answer indication from one of the first and second terminals in response to the alerts is disclosed in the off-hook indications discussed in lines 52-60 of column 9.

Regarding claim 13, McClung discloses the limitation of establishing a call session between another terminal that sent the call request and one of the first terminal and second terminal in lines 60-63 of column 9.

Regarding claim 43, McClung discloses the limitation that storing the table associating the first logical identifier with identifiers of the first and second terminals comprises storing the table associating the first logical identifier with both the identifier of the first terminal and the

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identifier of the second terminal in the mapping table of figure 3; see the row for device 1002 for example.

Regarding claim 45, the combination of McClung and Bozek above discloses the limitation that accessing the profile information comprises accessing speed dial information of the first terminal to establish the call session between the second and third terminals (see elements 205 and 207 of Figure 2 of Bozek, for example).

Regarding claim 46, McClung discloses the limitation of receiving a call request from a fourth terminal throughout. It is clear that there is no requirement for a single originating telephony device, so the call request can clearly come from a third or fourth terminal.

Regarding claim 47 the combination of McClung and Bozek above discloses the limitation that accessing the profile information comprises accessing speed dial information of the first terminal to establish the call session between the second and third terminals (see elements 205 and 207 of Figure 2 of Bozek, for example).

Regarding claim 48, McClung discloses the limitation of receiving a second call request from a fourth terminal specifying the logical identifier of the first terminal throughout; it is clear that there is no requirement for a single originating telephony device, so the call request can clearly come from a third or fourth terminal. Further, McClung discloses the limitation of sending an alert indication to the second terminal in response to the second call request in lines 43-45 of column 9.

9. Claims 37-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,798,767 to Alexander et al in view of U.S. Patent 6,961,346 to Michalewicz et al.

Regarding claim 37, Alexander discloses the control unit in the IP telephony devices 24 or 42 of Figure 1. The passage from lines 1-8 of column 4 discloses client modules (telephony software) executable on the control unit. The passage in lines 55-65 of column 12 discloses the limitation of sending a request to a server (call manager 26a or 26b of figure 1) to select a terminal to clone, wherein the soft clients become clones of respective terminals. The updating of the alternate number list anticipates the limitation of requesting a server to clone; as disclosed throughout, devices with a ring delay time of zero in the alternate device table of Figure 3 are rung simultaneously with the target device (and each other) and are thus clones of each other – see lines 3-4 of column 8 for example.

Alexander does not disclose expressly the limitation that there are a plurality of soft client modules on the IP telephony devices. Michalewicz discloses the limitation of a plurality of soft client modules on one device in lines 33-37 of column 6. Alexander and Michalewicz are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor of IP telephony. At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify Alexander to implement a plurality of soft clients on the IP telephony devices as suggested by Michalewicz. The motivation for doing so would have been to reduce costs by making more efficient use of hardware. Clearly, implementing multiple clients with the same hardware is less expensive than requiring N sets of the hardware for N clients. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Michalewicz with Alexander for the benefit of cost reduction to obtain the invention as specified in claim 37.

Regarding claim 38, the limitation that the soft client module is adapted to receive an alert indication from the server corresponding to a call request received by the server for the

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terminal the soft client module is cloning (disclosed throughout where the simultaneous ringing of the target device and alternate devices with a zero ring delay time is described – lines 3-4 of column 8 for example).

Regarding claims **39 and 40**, the LAN and WAN clouds of Figure 1 clearly comprise routers which route packets to and from the soft client modules, thus selecting one of the soft client modules for communicating packets in a call session. The limitation of claim 40 that an additional code in each packet is used to select one of the soft client modules is well known in the art through the use of port numbers to identify the application to which a particular IP packet is destined; official notice is taken.

1. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,775,369 to McClung in view of U.S. Patent 6,178,238 to Bozek et al and in further view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA).

The above cited combination of McClung and Bozek discloses all the limitations of parent claim 6 as discussed in the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) above.

McClung does not disclose expressly of the terminal proxy server communicating with the switch module via logical ports and associating a logical port with the first and second terminals.

AAPA clearly discloses that it is well known to implement the call processing necessary to connect devices in IP telephony using the use of logical ports between a TPS and a switch in lines 18-25 of page 2 of the present application. The AAPA clearly discloses reserving a logical port for the telephony client and then routing call control signaling messages through this logical

port. Alexander and AAPA are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor of IP telephony. At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to implement Alexander using a TPS and a switch instead of a single call manager. Clearly, since Alexander already disclosed associating the two terminals, the logical port discussed in AAPA would be used as the means of indicating this association. This would result in associating the first and second terminals with a logical port and then forwarding the call control messages using this logical port. The motivation for doing so would have been to implement the call manager in a manner which more closely mirrors the circuit switched implementation. This type of implementation is easier to conceptualize for those familiar with previous generation equipment and thus easier to maintain. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine AAPA with Alexander for the benefit of making the system easier to conceptualize to obtain the invention as specified in claim 7.

2. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,775,369 to McClung in view of U.S. Patent 6,178,238 to Bozek et al and in further view of U.S. Patent 6,798,767 to Alexander et al.

The combination of McClung and Bozek discloses all the limitations of parent claim 10 as discussed in the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) above.

McClung does not disclose expressly of multicasting the alert to the first and second terminals. Alexander discloses this limitation throughout, see lines 17-24 of column 2, for example; since the devices are rung simultaneously, the alerts are essentially multicast to these devices. McClung and Alexander are analogous art because they are from the same field of

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endeavor of telephony using data networks. At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify McClung to simultaneously ring multiple devices simultaneously. The motivation for doing so would have been to allow subscribers to be more accessible. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Alexander with McClung for the benefit of greater subscriber accessibility to obtain the invention as specified in claim 14.

3. Claims **16-22 and 44** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,798,767 to Alexander et al in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA).

Regarding claim **16**, Alexander discloses the limitation of receiving a request to establish a first terminal as a clone of a second terminal (devices with a ring delay time of zero in the alternate device table of Figure 3 are rung simultaneously with the target device (and each other) as described throughout – see lines 3-4 of column 8 for example; lines 1-8 of column 4 clearly establish computer 24 as an IP telephony device; lines 55-65 clearly indicate that at least an IP telephony device which is a computer (like element 24 of figure 1) can access and modify the alternate number list, this modification anticipating the request to clone the terminals).

Alexander also discloses creating an association between the two terminals in response to the request in the updated alternate number list. The limitation of receiving at the switch module a call request specifying the second terminal as the target is disclosed in element 202 of Figure 5A. The limitation of routing the call request to the first terminal is disclosed in element 222 of Figure 5A, for example.

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Alexander does not disclose expressly the limitation that the association created in response to the request is a logical port between the TPS and the switch module. Similarly, Alexander does not disclose the limitation of forwarding the call request through the first logical port.

AAPA clearly discloses that it is well known to implement the call processing necessary to connect devices in IP telephony using the use of logical ports between a TPS and a switch in lines 18-25 of page 2 of the present application. The AAPA clearly discloses reserving a logical port for the telephony client and then routing call control signaling messages through this logical port. Alexander and AAPA are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor of IP telephony. At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to implement Alexander using a TPS and a switch instead of a single call manager. Clearly, since Alexander already disclosed associating the two terminals, the logical port discussed in AAPA would be used as the means of indicating this association. This would result in associating the first and second terminals with a logical port and then forwarding the call control messages using this logical port. The motivation for doing so would have been to implement the call manager in a manner which more closely mirrors the circuit switched implementation. This type of implementation is easier to conceptualize for those familiar with previous generation equipment and thus easier to maintain. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine AAPA with Alexander for the benefit of making the system easier to conceptualize to obtain the invention as specified in claim 16.

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Regarding claim **17**, Alexander discloses the limitation of disabling the second terminal in lines 55-65 of column 12; the terminal can be disabled by modifying the alternate number list to remove the terminal from the list.

Regarding claim **18**, Alexander discloses the limitation of setting the first terminal as a replicate of the second terminal in the description above where both terminals are alerted.

Regarding claim **19**, Alexander discloses the limitation of routing the call request to the second terminal in the case where both terminals are alerted (zero ring delay).

Regarding claim **20**, Alexander discloses the limitation of receiving an indication from one of the terminals that the call request has been answered in lines 59-61 of column 11.

Regarding claim **21**, Alexander discloses the limitation of establishing a call session between the terminal that transmitted the request and the first of second terminal in lines 35-36 of column 12.

Regarding claim **22**, Alexander discloses the limitation that the call request is received over a packet-based network in the LANs 20a and 20b of Figure 1.

Regarding claim **44**, the limitation that forwarding the call request over the first logical port is performed instead of forwarding the call request over a second logical port from the switch module to the telephony proxy server, the second logical port previously associated with the first terminal prior to the request to establish the first terminal as a clone of the second terminal is clearly disclosed by the combination of Alexander and AAPA discussed above. As established above, the combination associates the two terminals with the first logical port and thus the call request will be forwarded over this logical port when received.

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4. Claims **23, 25-31 and 33-35** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,798,767 to Alexander et al in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) and in further view of U.S. Patent 6,263,064 to O'Neal et al.

Regarding claim **23**, Alexander discloses the limitation of an interface coupled to at least a first and a second terminal in the LAN 20a which is coupled to terminals (IP telephony devices 22-24 of Figure 1). There are clearly many other examples of this interface throughout Alexander as well. Alexander discloses the limitation of the control module in the call manager (26a or 26b of Figure 1). Alexander also discloses the limitation that this control module, in response to a request from a first terminal, defines the first terminal as a clone of a second terminal (devices with a ring delay time of zero in the alternate device table of Figure 3 are rung simultaneously with the target device (and each other) as described throughout – see lines 3-4 of column 8 for example; lines 1-8 of column 4 clearly establish computer 24 as an IP telephony device; lines 55-65 clearly indicate that at least an IP telephony device which is a computer (like element 24 of figure 1) can access and modify the alternate number list, which is the clone request). Alexander discloses storing an association between the first and second terminals in the alternate number table of Figure 3. Alexander discloses the limitation receiving a call request containing a first logical identifier associated with the first and second terminals in element 202 of Figure 5A. The limitation of alerting both terminals in response to the request is disclosed in elements 208 and 222 of Figure 5A.

Alexander does not disclose expressly the limitation that the association created in response to the request is a logical port between the TPS and the switch module. Similarly, Alexander does not disclose expressly the limitation of updating the table to indicate that the

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terminal that answered the call is the one to which forwarded future call requests should be forwarded.

AAPA clearly discloses that it is well known to implement the call processing necessary to connect devices in IP telephony using the use of logical ports between a TPS and a switch in lines 18-25 of page 2 of the present application. The AAPA clearly discloses reserving a logical port for the telephony client and then routing call control signaling messages through this logical port. Alexander and AAPA are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor of IP telephony. At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to implement Alexander using a TPS and a switch instead of a single call manager. Clearly, since Alexander already disclosed associating the two terminals, the logical port discussed in AAPA would be used as the means of indicating this association. This would result in associating the first and second terminals with a logical port and then forwarding the call control messages using this logical port. The motivation for doing so would have been to implement the call manager in a manner which more closely mirrors the circuit switched implementation. This type of implementation is easier to conceptualize for those familiar with previous generation equipment and thus easier to maintain. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine AAPA with Alexander for the benefit of making the system easier to conceptualize to obtain the invention as specified in claim 23.

The combination of Alexander and AAPA does not disclose expressly the limitation of updating the table to indicate that the terminal that answered the call is the one to which forwarded future call requests should be forwarded.

O'Neal discloses the limitation of updating the table to indicate that the terminal that answered the call is the one to which forwarded future call requests should be forwarded in lines 54-57 of column 12. Alexander, as modified, and O'Neal are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor of telephony using a data network. At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify Alexander to update the alternate number table to select the last terminal to answer as the first terminal to be alerted in response to the next call request. The motivation for doing so would have been to more intelligently route the call based on information regarding the called parties location. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine O'Neal with Alexander, modified, for the benefit of more intelligent routing to obtain the invention as specified in claim 23.

Regarding claim 25, Alexander discloses the limitation that the first logical identifier is a directory number in step 202 of Figure 5A – see lines 33-42 of column 10 as well.

Regarding claim 26, the combination of Alexander and AAPA discussed above clearly also comprises a switch module (the switch to which the logical ports are used to communicate call signaling messages.)

Regarding claim 27, the combination of Alexander and AAPA discussed above clearly also discloses receiving at the control module a request from the first terminal and the switch module treating the request as a request from the second terminal since the two terminals are associated with the same logical port number.

Regarding claims 28 and 29, the combination of Alexander and AAPA discussed above clearly also discloses the limitation of the control module selecting among a plurality of logical ports; the switch module would not be of much use if only one logical port was supported and

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the control module must clearly select the appropriate logical port on which to send the control messages for a particular session. Since the first two terminals are associated with the same logical port, it is clear that a request for the first terminal will use a logical port that is also used for the second terminal.

Regarding claim **30**, the combination of Alexander and AAPA discussed above clearly also discloses the limitation that the control module comprises a terminal proxy server (see lines 20-22 of page 2 of the present application.)

Regarding claim **31**, Alexander discloses the limitation of the storage unit containing information associating a directory number with the first and second terminals in Figure 3. This table associates the directory number of the target number with the target device and the alternate device(s).

Regarding claim **33**, Alexander discloses the limitation that the first terminal is set as a replicate of the second terminal in the alternate devices with zero ring delay which will cause these devices to be rung simultaneously with the target device.

Regarding claim **34**, Alexander discloses the limitation of the interface comprising an interface to an IP network in the LANs 20a and 20b of Figure 1.

Regarding claim **35**, Alexander discloses the limitation that the first terminal is a wireless terminal in phone 67 of Figure 1.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert C. Scheibel whose telephone number is 571-272-3169. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday and Thursday from 6:30-5:00 Eastern Time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Seema S. Rao can be reached on 571-272-3174. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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RCS 5-25-06

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